Romeo and Juliet

SYNOPSIS

# 1/Prologue

CHORUS enters and announces that the tragedy concerns the love between children of two warring households.

# 1/1 Verona. A public place.

SAMPSON and GREGORY enter, followed by ABRAHAM and BALTHASAR; the four fight.

BENVOLIO enters and separates the combattants.

TYBALT enters; he and BENVOLIO fight; a general brawl erupts.

CAPULET and LADY CAPULET, MONTAGUE and LADY MONTAGUE, ESCALUS and his train, enter in turn.

ESCALUS stops the fight.

All exit, except MONTAGUE, LADY MONTAGUE, and BENVOLIO, who speak about Romeo; MONTAGUE and LADY MONTAGUE exit.

ROMEO enters and tells BENVOLIO that he is in love.

# 1/2 Verona. A street.

CAPULET, PARIS and SERVANTS enter.

CAPULET listens as PARIS proposes to marry Juliet; he invites PARIS to a ball; they exit.

ROMEO and BENVOLIO enter and are approached by Capulet's SERVANT, who asks them to read the guest list for him.

# 1/3 Verona. A room in Capulet's house.

LADY CAPULET and NURSE enter and speak.

JULIET enters and LADY CAPULET tells her of Paris' offer of marriage.

# 1/4 Verona. A street.

ROMEO, BENVOLIO, MERCUTIO, and others enter on their way to the Capulet's masked ball.

# 1/5 Verona. A hall in Capulet's house.

MUSICIANS are present; SERVING-MEN prepare for the ball, then exit.

CAPULET, LADY CAPULET, JULIET, TYBALT, and others of the house enter, to welcome their GUESTS, including MASKERS, among whom are ROMEO and BENVOLIO.

ROMEO sees JULIET for the first time.

TYBALT recognizes ROMEO.

ROMEO and JULIET meet and fall in love; each, in turn, learns who the other is from NURSE.

# 2/Prologue

CHORUS enters and describes the impediments to Romeo and Juliet's courtship.

# 2/1 Verona. A lane by the wall of Capulet's orchard.

ROMEO enters and climbs into the orchard.

BENVOLIO and MERCUTIO enter; they look for Romeo, taunting his love-sickness; they exit.

# 2/2 Verona. Capulet's orchard.

JULIET enters at her window; she reveals her love for ROMEO; ROMEO responds; they decide to marry.

# 2/3 Verona. Friar Laurence's cell.

FRIAR LAURENCE soliloquizes.

ROMEO enters and asks FRIAR LAURENCE to marry him to Juliet; FRIAR LAURENCE agrees.

# 2/4 Verona. A street.

BENVOLIO and MERCUTIO speak about Romeo.

ROMEO enters and they banter.

NURSE and PETER enter; after further bantering, BENVOLIO and MERCUTIO exit.

ROMEO tells NURSE of the marriage arrangements.

# 2/5 Verona. Capulet's garden.

JULIET enters, followed by NURSE, who tells her of the marriage arrangements.

# 2/6 Verona. Friar Laurence's cell.

FRIAR LAURENCE and ROMEO speak.

JULIET enters; FRIAR LAURENCE leads the couple off to be married.

# 3/1 Verona. A public place.

MERCUTIO, BENVOLIO, PAGE, and SERVANTS enter, followed by TYBALT, seeking Romeo.

ROMEO enters and ignores TYBALT's taunts.

MERCUTIO and TYBALT fight; ROMEO intervenes; TYBALT wounds MERCUTIO, then exits.

MERCUTIO exits; he dies off-stage.

TYBALT reenters; he fights with ROMEO, who kills him, and then flees.

CITIZENS and OFFICERS enter, seeking Tybalt, followed by ESCALUS, MONTAGUE and LADY MONTAGUE, CAPULET and LADY CAPULET, and others.

BENVOLIO describes the fight.

ESCALUS exiles Romeo.

# 3/2 Verona. Capulet's orchard.

JULIET awaits the night, and Romeo.

NURSE enters, with a garbled version of the fight.

JULIET weeps for Romeo and Tybalt.

NURSE tells JULIET that Romeo will visit her that night.

# 3/3 Verona. Friar Laurence's cell.

ROMEO learns from FRIAR LAURENCE that he is banished; he despairs.

NURSE enters with a message and a ring from Juliet.

FRIAR LAURENCE tells ROMEO to go to Mantua and await further instructions from him.

# 3/4 Verona. A room in Capulet's house.

CAPULET, LADY CAPULET, and PARIS enter; CAPULET agrees to give Juliet to PARIS in marriage.

# 3/5 Verona. Juliet's chamber.

ROMEO and JULIET are together, reluctant to part.

NURSE enters to warn them that Lady Capulet is approaching; ROMEO exits.

LADY CAPULET enters and tells JULIET she is to marry Paris; JULIET refuses; CAPULET enters and insists on the match, then exits with LADY CAPULET.

NURSE advises JULIET to accept Paris.

# 4/1 Verona. Friar Laurence's cell.

PARIS tells FRIAR LAURENCE of his engagement to Juliet.

JULIET enters; she and PARIS speak, then PARIS exits.

FRIAR LAURENCE proposes a plan in which JULIET is to feign death; he gives JULIET a potion; she exits.

# 4/2 Verona. Hall in Capulet's house.

CAPULET, LADY CAPULET, NURSE, and SERVING-MEN plan the wedding celebration.

JULIET enters and promises to obey CAPULET, who decides to hold the wedding the following day.

# 4/3 Verona. Juliet's chamber.

JULIET asks LADY CAPULET and NURSE to leave her alone; they exit; JULIET drinks the potion.

# 4/4 Verona. Hall in Capulet's house.

CAPULET, LADY CAPULET, NURSE, and SERVING-MEN prepare for the celebration.

CAPULET sends NURSE to awaken Juliet.

# 4/5 Verona. Juliet's chamber.

NURSE, unable to awaken JULIET, calls for help.

CAPULET and LADY CAPULET enter; they mourn their daughter; FRIAR LAURENCE, PARIS, and MUSICIANS enter and lament.

All exit, except for the MUSICIANS; PETER enters and speaks to them.

# 5/1 Mantua. A street.

BALTHASAR tells ROMEO that Juliet is dead.

ROMEO buys some poison from an APOTHECARY, then sets off for Juliet's grave.

# 5/2 Verona. Friar Laurence's cell.

FRIAR JOHN tells FRIAR LAURENCE that he was unable to deliver FRIAR LAURENCE's letter to Romeo.

FRIAR LAURENCE leaves for Juliet's tomb, to be there when she awakens.

# 5/3 Verona. A churchyard; in it a monument belonging to the Capulets.

PARIS and his PAGE visit Juliet's tomb.

They hide as ROMEO and BALTHASAR enter; BALTHASAR retreats as ROMEO opens the tomb.

PARIS challenges ROMEO, who kills him.

ROMEO kisses JULIET, drinks the poison and dies.

FRIAR LAURENCE enters; JULIET wakes.

The Watch approaches; FRIAR LAURENCE flees.

JULIET awakes; she kisses ROMEO and stabs herself.

The WATCHMEN send for ESCALUS, who enters, followed by CAPULET and LADY CAPULET, MONTAGUE and others.

FRIAR LAURENCE confesses his bungled scheme.

MONTAGUE and CAPULET are reconciled.

<http://project.ee.mtu.edu/~ncbright/shake/Synopsis/Romeo_and_Juliet>